

House No. 1906 of 1947

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Ordered, That a joint special committee, to consist of three members of the senate to be designated by the president thereof and six members of the house of representatives to be designated by the speaker thereof is hereby established and shall be known as the committee on subversive activities. The committee shall function as long as its continued existence shall be deemed necessary by the General Court.

The committee appointed hereunder shall conduct hearings, investigations and probes of such persons or organizations, and groups, relative to the purposes and activities and, in the case of organizations and groups also relative to membership therein, as appear, or in the case of organizations and groups, whose officers, members, agents or representatives appear, before legislative committees, or whose activities come to the attention of said committee on subversive activities when such persons or organizations are known or believed by said committee to be promoting, furthering or participating in any movements which are subversive to our American form of government or advocating theories or doctrines contrary to and inconsistent with the Constitutions of this Commonwealth and of the United States, or either of them.

Said committee shall be empowered to summon witnesses and compel such witnesses to testify and to produce any and all books, records, papers and memoranda that the committee may deem proper in the furtherance of its work. Said committee shall have the power

to administer oaths to witnesses and to punish for contempt.

Said committee shall report its findings to General Court at such time or times as it may deem advisable so that the members of the General Court may be properly informed and enlightened as to such persons and organizations and groups and their activities in respect to legislative and other matters. Said commission may expend for expenses and legal, clerical and other assistance, such sums, not exceeding in the aggregate, thirty-five hundred dollars as may hereafter be appropriated.